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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 022192

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ORIGIN IO-02

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66617
DRAFTED BY: IO/UNP:RCREISJR
APPROVED BY: IO:LKAHN
---------- 107074
R 081935Z FEB 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 022192

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION GENEVA INFO BONN BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN DUBLIN THE HAGUE LONDON LUXEMBOURG PARIS ROME USUN NEW YORK LUANDA LOURENCO MARQUES FROM STATE DATED FEBRUARY 1.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 022192

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AORG, POL, PU, ITU
SUBJECT: EEC SEEKS COMMON POSITION ON GUINEA-BISSAU MEMBERSHIP IN ITU

REF: GENEVA 0481

1. SECRETARY GENERAL (SYG) OF INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU) REQUESTED MEMBERS TO VOTE ON MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OF GUINEA-BISSAU IN COMMUNICATION DATED NOVEMBER 2. MEMBERS MUST INFORM SYG OF THEIR VOTES BY MARCH 2. TO BE ADMITTED TO THE ORGANIZATION, "GUINEA-BISSAU" MUST RECEIVE POSITIVE VOTES OF TWO THIRDS OF MEMBERSHIP. ABSTENTIONS THUS HAVE SAME EFFECT AS NEGATIVE VOTES, AND NON-RESPONSES COUNT AS ABSTENTIONS. GIVEN THE REQUIREMENT OF TWO THIRDS APPROVAL, WE BELIEVE GUINEA-BISSAU'S APPLICATION MAY BE REJECTED.

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2. U.S. OPPOSES ADMISSION OF GUINEA-BISSAU TO ITU AND

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OTHER UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES. IN OUR OPINION, GUINEA-BISSAU LACKS ATTRIBUTES OF STATE, INCLUDING ABILITY TO FULFILL INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS. WE BELIEVE ITS APPLICATIONS TO JOIN ITU, OTHER SPECIALIZED AGENCIES ARE PLOYS TO WIN INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION, GAIN MOMENTUM IN BID FOR UN MEMBERSHIP AND PUT PRESSURE ON PORTUGUESE. IN CASE OF ITU, IT QUESTIONABLE THAT GUINEA-BISSAU WOULD BENEFIT FROM MEMBERSHIP AND DOUBTFUL ORGANIZATION COULD GAIN FROM ITS PARTICIPATION. U.S. IS PLANNING NOT TO RETURN ITS BALLOT.

3. WE DO NOT PLAN TO LAUNCH MAJOR CAMPAIGN ON THIS ISSUE BUT DO BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO MAKE EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT EEC MEMBERS NOT VOTE AS A BLOC IN FAVOR GUINEA-BISSAU MEMBERSHIP.

4. MISSION SHOULD ACCORDINGLY ADVISE EEC MEMBER REPS OF U.S. RESERVATIONS AS PER PARA 2 ABOVE.

5. FYI. BRITISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAS INFORMED DEPT THAT UK WILL URGE OTHER EC NINE MEMBERS TO OPPOSE GUINEA-BISSAU'S ADMISSION TO ITU. END FYI. KISSINGER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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